

## **SSUDAC Meeting Summary**

### **January 17, 2013**

**Members Present:** Ernest Bland, Carmen Camacho, Jon Lourie, Mel Tull

**Members Absent:** Tiffany A. Graham-Golden, Julie Statland, Yuri Van Mierlo

**Call to Order and Introductions:** Mr. Ernest Bland, Chair called meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. Mr. Bland shared a letter whereby he referenced his concerns about making downtown Silver Spring viable and/or attractive for businesses.

#### **Rogers Stanley, Montgomery County Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs** Fenton Village Pedestrian Linkages Project (Update):

- Streetscape Improvement Project for a portion of the east side of Georgia Ave. – 2 of 4 phases have been completed
- Conduit for street lights have been replaced
- New tree pits with plantings and fencing have been installed and old trees will be replaced
- Projected time table to start the next phase is March

#### **Michael Niakani and Clyde Wallace, Utility Systems C&E, LLC**

##### Utility Project for Studio Plaza:

- Presenters provided an overview of the two phase utility relocation project, resulting in overhead utilities being moved underground (Pepco, Comcast, RCM, and Verizon)
- The work will be done along Thayer Ave, Fenton St., Mayor's Lane and Silver Spring Ave.
- All work will be done by one contractor, but in different stages, minimizing impact on tenants & deliveries
- Projected time frame for project is mid-February through June
- Existing trash dumpsters currently located along Mayor's Lane will eventually be placed in a 'set-back' in the Studio Plaza project, behind door/locks, and properly ventilated, with access to tenants at no additional fee
- Lighting will be installed on the back of buildings, facing the alley, and will remain to provide additional security during and after construction

#### **Sandra Brecher, Chief, Commuter Services Sections, MCDOT**

##### Bike Sharing:

- There are efforts to expand bike sharing program (Capital Bike Share) into Montgomery County

- Bike sharing is intended for short trips, extends the reach of transit, supports mixed-use neighborhoods
- Promotes an environmentally stable and less auto-dependent society
- Bike stations in Montgomery County will have no less than 11 docks (32" long, 6" wide/deep, and need 6" clearance to pull out bikes)
- 1800 bikes and 200 stations are anticipated. Stations can last two weeks on solar and battery power if necessary
- For Down-County Bike Share, the proposed area is between the DC line and Beltway, along two legs of the Red Line Metro Rail
- Project needs to get underway before June 30, 2013, prior to expiration of grant funding
- Youth 15 and under are not allowed to utilize Capital Bike Share and youth 16 or 17 need parental permission to utilize the program. Riders 18+ are not required to wear helmets, though it is highly recommended.

**Reemberto Rodriguez, Director of Regional Service Center**

Regional Center Report:

- FY 14 Budget will be passed by County Council later in May
- Urban District Budget is within the Community Engagement Cluster budget
- Passed the conversation along to Yvette as part of a joint-presentation about the budget

**Yvette Freeman, Director of Operations**

Silver Spring Urban District Report:

- Discussed several budget issues related to trash removal within the CBD including location of the roll-off used by the SSUD, and the need for new trash receptacles including recycling receptacle. Also walkway and curb repairs (\$150k) and SSUD's continued maintenance of Veterans Plaza (\$50k)
- Other budget issues includes enhanced marketing strategies, and the reintroduction of banners and holiday decorations.
- Mr. Ernest Bland offered to host at his office, a meeting to discuss the budget information in greater detail to allow the committee to effectively advocate for the Urban District.

**Meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.**